



SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF INDIANA

Todd Rokita
Secretary of State

April 28, 2008

An Important Message Regarding the Indiana 2008 Primary Election

Mitch Daniels Campaign
47 S. Meridian St., 2nd Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Candidates, Staff and Supporters:

As the Chief Election Officer for the State of Indiana, I welcome your campaigns in the Hoosier state and thank you for your get out the vote efforts. In this exciting election season, with the eyes of the nation on both our state and the state of each campaign, I encourage you to become familiar with the Indiana election requirements to make sure that you and your staff are correctly preparing voters to exercise their right to vote on Election Day.

In an effort to both educate on the most common questions and prevent any cause for concern in the coming weeks, I would like to call your attention to the following topics:

Absentee Ballots:

- Though absentee voting in person at the county election board office is open to all registered voters, voting by mail is not. Unless a voter meets certain, specified criteria, they must vote in person, either at the designated location for in-person absentee voting, or on Election Day at the precinct in which they are registered. Applications to vote absentee by mail should be received **in the county election board office by the date of this letter, Monday April 28, 2006 - (postmarked applications will not be accepted).**
- Each voter receiving an absentee ballot by mail will also receive a copy of the enclosed Indiana Absentee Voter's Bill of Rights. My office will continue to educate voters on the three most vital points of this document: 1) they should not be pressured to vote absentee; 2) they have the right to cast their ballot in secret and; 3) voters should personally mail or return their ballot.

Photo ID:

- My office has conducted an extensive voter education campaign through paid media, earned media, advertising, and other outreach regarding photo ID requirements for voting. Because of a historical increase in voter registrations, we have increased this outreach budget by almost 50%; including sending a postcard to all newly registered voters reminding them of the photo ID requirement. Additionally, there are numerous resources available for your use in further

preparing voters to fulfill this requirement. Please visit www.PhotoID.in.gov for additional information and resources.

- For voters who do not already have a valid photo ID, they can obtain an Indiana photo ID card free of charge from any Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch that issues driver licenses and ID Cards. All BMV locations that normally issue driver licenses and ID Cards will have extended hours on Election Day from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm and the day before Election Day from 8:30 am to 8:00 pm.
- The photo ID requirement applies to voters who vote in-person, either at their polling location or the designated locations for absentee in person. Voters who qualify to vote absentee by mail, or absentee by traveling board will not be required to show photo ID,

At the polls on Election Day:

- In Indiana, a 50-foot chute is designated for voters to line up to enter the polls free from election materials and campaign supporters. The chute begins at the entrance to the room where voting will take place and extends out from the building. This area will be marked for your reference.
- Electioneering, or campaigning, is only allowed outside of the chute area. State law defines electioneering as expressing support or opposition to any candidate or political party or expressing approval or disapproval of any public question. All signs, campaign supports and activities shall be conducted outside of this area.
- Procedures exist to challenge a voter who may not be eligible to vote in a precinct, including if their name is not on the poll list, or if the voter does not currently reside in the precinct. Voters in a primary may also be challenged based on party affiliation. If a voter is challenged based on party affiliation, he or she will be required to complete the PRE-6 challenged voter affidavit before receiving a regular ballot.

I encourage you to become familiar with Indiana's election specifics— all candidates, campaign staff and supporters are responsible for knowing and following our state and federal election laws. Information regarding Indiana's Primary Election, absentee voting procedures, Photo ID law, counties using vote centers and Indiana's statewide voter registration system is also enclosed.

The Indiana Election Division is available to respond to any questions you may have about the Indiana Absentee Voter's Bill of Rights or Indiana Election Law. The Indiana Election Division may be reached by dialing (800) 622-4941 or on the Web, at: <http://www.in.gov/sos/elections/>. Reports of illegal or suspicious election activity, or complaints should be directed to the Indiana Secretary of State, in care of the Indiana Help America Vote Act Office (866) IN-1-VOTE (1-866-461-8683).

With your help, Indiana will have a open, accurate, and fair Primary Election in which all voters can have the utmost confidence.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Rokita", written in a cursive style.

Todd Rokita, Indiana Secretary of State

cc: United States Presidential Candidates
cc: Indiana Gubernatorial Candidates
cc: Indiana County Election Boards